



Linda Spears, long time Tempe resident and past councilwoman, has been selected to receive Tempe's prestigious Don Carlos Humanitarian of the Year Award. Named after Tempe's founder, Charles Trumbull "Don Carlos" Hayden, the award is given annually by Tempe Community Council to recognize Tempeans for outstanding humanitarian service in the community over an extended period of time.

In addition to serving on Tempe's City Council from 1994 to 1998, Spears made her mark in Tempe through a variety of human service efforts. Her work with the Boys and Girls Club dates back to 1990, where she continues to contribute her leadership and fundraising skills to help meet the needs of the children served through their program.

She served on the boards of the TIE Foundation (1997-2003), the Tempe Salvation Army (1999-2002), The Centers for Habilitation (1996-2003), and Tempe Community Council (1999-2007). She is an active member of Kiwanis Club of Tempe, and was elected its first female president in 1992. In 1995 as a member of Kiwanis she conceptualized Tempe's Fantasy of Lights Parade, which today draws a crowd of 45,000. Her interest in providing affordable housing in Tempe drew her to the boards of the Industrial Development Authority and Newtown Community Development Corporation, which she has sat on since 2003 and 2005 respectively. One of her most recent endeavors is raising funds and awareness for the Tempe Community Foundation, which provides funding to meet the needs of all human service agencies serving Tempe citizens.

While all of these contributions to Tempe are indeed impressive, former Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano sums up what makes Spears most worthy of the Don Carlos Humanitarian Award by saying "It is that call that many have received from her that starts out 'Hey, there is this family with a couple of kids who are in bad shape and I'm gathering some stuff for them....do you know anyone who has (blank).'"

The **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Award Reception** will take place on **Wednesday, September 26, 2007** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Arizona Historical Society Museum, 1300 N. College Ave., in Tempe. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be provided by Heidi's Events and Catering. The cost is \$25 per person. The public is invited to attend. To receive an invitation contact Tempe Community Council at (480) 858-2300.